IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims is as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A signal describing method for describing [a] feature data characteristic of input data, comprising the steps of:

dividing said input data into a plurality of segments;

calculating features of a respective segment, wherein a color feature is calculated by denoting a color histogram; and

measuring similarities between segments based on their calculated features;

grouping said segments into scenes based on their calculated features and measured similarities;

generating feature data corresponding to said scenes; and

transmitting said feature data with said input data,

wherein said feature data is described using descriptors each having its attributes defined as lower-level elements.

2.   (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the input data includes at least one of visual data and audio data included in a video data.

3.   (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the descriptor is generated to inherit functions from a higher-class descriptor including the capability of structuring.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the attribute as the lower-level element is structured by defining the attribute of the descriptor and/or a special attribute.

5.   (Currently Amended) A data processor for generating [a] feature data characteristic of input data, comprising:-

dividing means for dividing said input data into a plurality of segments;

calculating means for calculating features of a respective segment, said calculating means being operable to calculate a color feature denoting a color histogram; and

measuring means for measuring similarities between segments based on their calculated features;

grouping means for grouping said segments into scenes based on their calculated features and measured similarities;

generating means for generating feature data corresponding to said scene; and

transmitting means for transmitting said feature data with said input data,

wherein said feature data is described using descriptors each having its attributes defined as lower-level elements.

6.   (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the input data includes at least one of visual data and audio data included in a video data.

7.   (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the descriptor is generated to inherit functions from a higher-class descriptor including the capability of structuring.

8.   (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the attribute as the lower-level element is structured by defining the attribute of the descriptor and/or a special attribute.

9.   (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the feature data is sent along with the input data to an external apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) A data processor for utilizing feature data characteristic of input data, comprising:

dividing means for dividing said input data into a plurality of segments;

calculating means for calculating features of a respective segment, said calculating means being operable to calculate a color feature denoting a color histogram;

measuring means for measuring similarities between segments based on their calculated features; and

grouping means for grouping said segments into scenes based on their calculated features and measured similarities;

generating means for generating feature data corresponding to said scene;

transmitting means for transmitting said feature data with said input data; and

means for restoring a feature of the input data using feature data described with descriptors each having its attributes defined as lower-level elements.

11. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 10, wherein the input data includes at least one of visual data and audio data included in a video data.

12. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 10, wherein the descriptor is generated to inherit functions from a higher-class descriptor including the capability of structuring.

13. (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 10, wherein the attribute as the lower-level element is structured by defining the attribute of the descriptor and/or a special attribute.

14. (Canceled)

15.   (Original) The apparatus as set forth in Claim 10, wherein the feature data is received

along with the input data from an external apparatus.